

promotion to major. This program would consist of a common core curriculum coupled with a masters degree program tailored for FA 24 and FA 53 officers.

### Optional training

At different times during the course of their careers, Signal officers get the opportunity to further develop leadership and combat functional skills in the three-week Airborne course and/or nine-week Ranger course. Currently a Signal officer must be slated for a Ranger assignment to be eligible for the Ranger course. Officers are also eligible to attend the Special Forces Qualification Course, Air Assault Course and/or Jumpmaster Course when assigned to units that use this specialized training.

### Functional training

All Signal officers are eligible to attend more training to prepare them for jobs requiring extensive knowledge of specific systems or disciplines. Some of the courses available are:

- Battlefield Spectrum Manage-

ment Course – 10 weeks of training designed to teach future frequency spectrum managers a variety of skills required for allocating and regulating management of the radio frequency spectrum.

- Joint Task Force Systems Course – nine weeks of training on planning and managing communications-computer support networks for joint warfighters.

- Director of Information Management Operations Officer Course – two weeks of training on the six functional areas of information management as they pertain to systems within garrison, sustaining base, power projection and split base operations.



A Signal officer refreshes her skills in training at the Signal Center.

- RBECS/Joint CEOI Course – two weeks of training on standardized instructions and associated computer hardware required to manage the joint battlefield electronic CEOI system used in joint operations.

- Joint Tactical Automated Switching Network Supervisors Course – nine weeks of training on designing, managing and troubleshooting joint tactical communications switched networks.

- Mobile Subscriber Equipment Systems Control Center Operator Course – five weeks of training on operating and maintaining the MSE system control center effectively.

- Standardized Communications Security Custodian Course – two weeks of certification training on safeguarding, accounting, and controlling communications security COMSEC material.

- Tactical Signal S-3 Course – two weeks of training that prepares people for assignment as the S-3 or member of the S-3 staff within a tactical Signal organization.

Signal officers are also eligible to attend a variety of information technology subcourses when assigned to positions that require more specialized training.

### Civilian education and Training with Industry

Not only are Signal officers provided many opportunities to serve in highly visible positions, they are also

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*"It was an excellent mission. Even though we're Signal, we had the opportunity to go on some food-distribution missions. El Salvador wasn't hit as badly as Nicaragua and Guatemala, but there were some villages flooded out and some families experiencing tragic conditions. I realized that everything we did there was the same as we do when we go to the field. We really do train as we fight. It was like clockwork."*



1LT Cora Henry makes friends on a food-distribution mission with El Salvadoran children left orphaned by Hurricane Mitch.

### The Signal experience